GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1954
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
INDUSTRIAL GROWTH
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is keen on broad-basing industrial growth so that it generates more visible employment benefits; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a)&(b) : Yes Sir. Government has put in place various policies to promote broad based industrial growth, which generate employment. These include, inter-alia, delicensing of industrial capacity, liberalization of foreign trade regime to provide better access to inputs at competitive prices, rationalization and reduction in duty rates of customs and central excise, better infrastructure support, and liberal FDI regime, etc. to foster industrial growth and thereby to generate greater employment. Further, the Eleventh Plan(2007-12) strategy also aims at putting the economy on a sustainable, accelerated, growth trajectory and creating productive employment across the country in all sectors of the economy. For this purpose one of the major challenges identified is increasing manufacturing competitiveness, which will address the challenge of inclusive growth.Generation of additional employment opportunities by the use of Labour Intensive Manufacturing sectors has also been stressed upon.The flagship programmes of the Government including National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme & Bharat Nirman aim at enhancing employment generating activity.

Transport Subsidy Scheme to promote industrial development is being implemented in the North East and other hilly regions.Industrial infrastructural upgradation scheme to provide quality infrastructure is in existence in some selected clusters. In addition, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Act, 2006 has been enacted to promote and develop these enterprises, which are more labour intensive.